



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1522-0567

MONDAY,
MARCH 28, 2005
VOL. 52 NO. 37

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices in the major terminal markets were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Trade sentiment was mostly steady, but seasonal with traders closely watching further market developments. Retail demand was light, but keeping floor stocks in a workable position. Supplies of all sizes were generally sufficient for trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was moderate to mostly light. Breast items were sufficient, tenders and leg quarters improved, and wings were irregular but usually readily available in the East. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable. A few plants were down on Monday for a long holiday weekend.

Final Report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook ice-packed broiler/fryers (includes branded product) to be delivered to first receivers at major market centers week of 28-MAR-2005.

(cents per lb)	US GRADE A	COMPOSITE			
AREAS	MAJORITY	WTD	LOADS	WTD	LOADS
		AVG		AVG	
Boston/New England	TFEWR			68.73	27
Chicago	67.00-70.00	70.10	41	71.14	76
Ohio Cities	TFEWR			73.26	26
Denver	79.50	79.37	15	79.56	17
Detroit	69.00-70.00	71.50	8	73.27	45
Los Angeles	80.00	79.32	63	77.30	157
New York	72.00-74.00	72.75	24	72.45	42
Philadelphia	70.50-72.00	71.58	12	71.02	24
Pittsburgh	71.00-73.00	71.92	12	73.48	58
St. Louis	69.75-70.00	69.45	21	69.05	34
San Francisco	80.50	80.66	38	78.26	90

Composite Weighted Average

Loads	03/28/05	Change/Last Wk	03/21/05	03/29/04
596	73.65	-.42	74.07	76.77

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AV	LOADS
Eastern	74.00-75.00	74.62	33
Central	70.00-77.00	72.80	70
Western	77.00-79.00	77.74	37

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	73.00-76.00	74.01	89
-------------	-------------	-------	----

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG

LOADS	RANGE	FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,135	67.00-76.00	73.09

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	178.50	1,490
BREASTS - B/S	157.00	5,961
BREASTS - WHOLE	86.50	1,533
THIGH MEAT - B/S	95.00	1,063
LEG QUARTERS	32.00	7,719
WINGS	103.50	3,035

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYER Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light and selective entering the week. Offerings of all sizes were limited due some down time taken but generally noted as sufficient for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was about fair. The market tone was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were adequate to fully adequate. Tenders were clearing satisfactory. Wings were readily available and slow to clear. Dark meat cuts were adequate.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady, but seasonal as sellers access holiday down time. Demand was not aggressive but usually reported as light to moderate. Supplies were sufficient for trade needs, even though some plants were closed on Monday. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate. Breast items were sufficient, tenders some improvement, dark meat was adequate, and wings were at adequate to fully adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices unchanged throughout the region. Trading reported for this week's deliveries at mainly unchanged to instances lower prices. Offerings were adequate. Production slaughter schedules back to normal overall after the holidays. Buying activity increased to cover first-of-the month needs. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best where features planned for later in the week. Dealers reported satisfactory weekend clearances. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 77.21 down .86 from last week with the volume reported unchanged at 28 loads.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER Majority prices were unchanged from last Monday's final in Chicago, Detroit, and slightly higher in St. Louis; Ohio cities TFEWR. The whole fryer market tone was generally steady on limited offerings. Movement into retail outlets was slow to moderate, while food service was light to fairly good. Some restaurants, sports bars and fast food channels saw a good weekend draw. Floor stocks were closely balanced to adequate; weights desirable. Dark meat cuts were in close balance, whole and boneless/skinless breasts adequate, and wings were plentiful. The market tone was fully steady to firm on leg cuts, and steady to barely steady on all other parts.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was very light and unaggressive. Seller offerings, although limited, were fully sufficient. Live supplies were moderate to light; weights were mostly desirable. Processing schedules were very light as several plants closed to keep supplies in a better balance with seasonally reduced needs surrounding the Passover/Easter period. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 72 to 84 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, supplies were fully adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	69-87
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	80.16
NO. OF BOXES	2,588

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was light and selective entering the week as dealers attempted to assess market conditions. Offerings of breast items were adequate to fully adequate for current needs. Tenders were clearing satisfactorily. Dark meat cuts generally adequate. Wings were available and slow in clearing. Retail and distributive movement was no better than fair. The market tone was generally steady on breast items and dark meat cuts. Wings were barely steady to weak.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	CURRENT	WTD	VOLUME
	TRADING		AVG	/LBS
BREAST - B/S		160	155.76	465,360
TENDERLOINS	155-160		154.31	67,600
BREAST - WITH RIBS	91-92		96.96	58,040
BREAST - LINE RUN	91		91.73	91,720
LEGS	44-45		44.07	354,220
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	31-32		30.93	317,360
DRUMSTICKS	31-32		34.99	72,720
THIGHS	38-39		47.69	27,000
B/S THIGHS	96-97		96.85	72,200
WINGS (WHOLE)	97-98		94.21	79,600
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		11.33	12,880
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35		27.52	18,920
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65		65.00	12,800

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	1,428	120.00-157.00	148-155	146.94
TENDERLOINS	712	145.00-202.00	150-157	153.00
BREAST - WITH RIBS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	1,297	28.00-31.00	28-29	28.63
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,850	31.00-33.00	-	31.01
WINGS (WHOLE)	492	73.00-107.00	95-102	101.58
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS	1,320	36.00-38.00	36-37	36.36

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	Estimate	Actual	Avg Wts	Actual	Avg Wts
	(1,000)	(1,000)		(1,000)	
	03/28	03/24	03/24	03/21	03/17
Alabama	3,840	3,939	5.10	4,020	5.09
Arkansas	5,298	5,376	4.97	5,452	4.97
Delmarva	1,242	2,167	5.45	2,220	5.59
KY-LA-TN	2,041	2,287	4.91	2,105	4.95
Mississippi	2,778	3,006	5.46	3,032	5.43
North Carolina	1,952	2,410	6.43	2,430	6.32
Texas	2,412	2,157	5.18	2,154	5.13
Total	19,563	21,342	5.29	21,413	5.29
Mon	19,563(A)			21,413(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 28-Mar 2005 is estimated to be 29,268,000 down 8.91 percent from a week ago, and down 4.2 percent from a year ago.

(last week 32,132,000 last year 30,560,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD
	(000)			AVG
BREAST - B/S	700	145.00-160.00	148-152	149.66
TENDERLOINS	203	150.00-200.00	152-155	155.02
BREAST - LINE RUN	77	89.00-105.00	90-93	91.66
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	590	29.00-33.00	30-31	30.42
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,085	30.00-36.00	32-33	32.53
WINGS (WHOLE)	345	69.00-108.00	100-104	100.33
WINGS (CUT)	302	84.00-121.00	-	113.62
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS TRADING FOR MARCH 28, 2005 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S	5-DAY
	AVERAGE	AVERAGE
53.50 - 58.00	54.45	54.78

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 28-MAR-2005 TO 01-APR-2005, CENTS PER POUND

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	145.00 - 162.50	150.00 - 160.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	86.50 - 114.00	91.00 - 101.00
LEGS	45.00 - 50.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29.00 - 39.00	31.00 - 33.00
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	31.00 - 41.00	33.00 - 36.00
DRUMSTICKS	29.00 - 54.00	-
THIGHS	39.00 - 49.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	82.00 - 108.00	105.00 - 108.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12.00 - 23.00	-
LIVERS	30.00 - 42.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	40.00 - 60.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	86.5-98.5
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	90-102

FROZEN HENS 5# & UP

FROZEN DUCKS

FROZEN SQUABS

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	97-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	99-107
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	65-73

DUCKS

RABBITS-WHOLE

RABBITS-CUT UP

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	105-108
ICE PACK	105-107
ROASTERS 4# & UP	111
ICE PACK	108-111
HENS OVER 5#	89-95
ICE PACK	89-93
DUCKS	180-192

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

MARCH 25, 2005

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	18.25	24.75	420,000	260,000
WTD AVERAGE	18.25	24.75		

15-20%				
RANGE	19.50-28.00	23.00-27.50	2,512,000	1,612,000
WTD AVERAGE	23.98	25.26		

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	20.00	80,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		20.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

MARCH 25, 2005

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
(Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

15-20%				
RANGE	25.00-28.00	12.00-27.00	1,286,000	-
WTD AVERAGE	26.02	19.40		

20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for the adequate to about adequate offerings. Processing schedules were noted as normal to instances less than normal. Sales of finished product were generally sufficient and clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 28-MAR-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.25-15.5	11.25-13	12.28
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Sales of finished product were fair with schedules adequate for needs. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 28-MAR-05

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-15.25	11-13	12.14

*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,**POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Branch Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
Jackson, MS	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown (Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Fax	(601)965-4661	
	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins (Officer-In-Charge)
Los Angeles, CA	Fax	(515)284-4468	
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby (Officer-In-Charge)
	Fax	(213)534-1333	
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	